



Atty. Dkt. No. 062834-0142

THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: George H. HOFFMAN

Title: SYSTEM, METHOD AND COMPUTER
PROGRAM PRODUCT FOR SUPPLIER
SELECTION IN A SUPPLY CHAIN
MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK

Appl. No.: 09/816,083

Filing Date: 03/23/2001

Examiner: F. Ryan Zeender

Art Unit: 3627

RECEIVED

JUN 4 2004

GROUP 3600

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 CFR §1.56

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

Submitted herewith on Form PTO/SB/08 is a listing of documents known to Applicants in order to comply with Applicants' duty of disclosure pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56. A copy of each listed document is being submitted to comply with the provisions of 37 CFR §1.97 and §1.98.

The submission of any document herewith, which is not a statutory bar, is not intended as an admission that such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application or that such document is considered material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR §1.56(b). Applicants do not waive any rights to take any action which would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove as a competent reference any document which is determined to be a *prima facie* art reference against the claims of the present application.

06/03/2004 SSANDARA 00000011 09816083

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TIMING OF THE DISCLOSURE

The listed documents are being submitted in compliance with 37 CFR §1.97(c), before the mailing date of either a final action under 37 CFR §1.113, a notice of allowance under 37 CFR §1.113, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application.

RELEVANCE OF EACH DOCUMENT

All of the documents are in English.

Applicants respectfully request that any listed document be considered by the Examiner and be made of record in the present application and that an initialed copy of Form PTO/SB/08 be returned in accordance with MPEP §609.

FEE

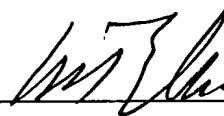
A fee in connection with submission of an information disclosure statement under 37 CFR §1.97(c) in the amount of \$180.00 in accordance with 37 CFR §1.17(p) is attached.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 CFR §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Respectfully submitted,

Date June 2, 2004

By



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Registration No. 26,874

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Substitute for form 1449B/PTO

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

Date Submitted: June 2, 2004

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Complete if Known

Application Number	09/816,083
Filing Date	March 23, 2001
First Named Inventor	Gary H. HOFFMAN
Group Art Unit	3627
Examiner Name	Florian M. Zeender
Attorney Docket Number	062834-0142

Sheet 1 of 3

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)			
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 Examiner
Signature

 Date
Considered

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Unique citation designation number. ² See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document.

⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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Substitute for form 1449B/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT Date Submitted: June 2, 2004 (use as many sheets as necessary)				Complete if Known Application Number: 09/816,083 Filing Date: March 23, 2001 First Name and Inventor: Gary H. HOFFMAN Group Art Unit: 3627 Examiner Name: Florian M. Zeender Attorney Docket Number: 062834-0142	
Sheet	2	of	3		

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
		U.S. Patent Document			
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		Office ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS				
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.) date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.		T ⁶
		Noori, Hamid; Production and Operations Management; Total Quality Responsiveness; McGraw-Hill; 1995; pages 422-519		
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		PR Newswire: Agile, Andersen Consulting Announce Strategic Alliance, Looksmart, September 6, 2000		
		Stephanie Stahl, "A Whopping Inventory Task – Burger King's purchasing agency lures suppliers online to streamline its huge distribution system", INFORMATIONWEEK, 1994		
		John Rendleman, "Burger King Orders AT&T Mail Service", CommunicationsWeek, 1994.		

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT		Application Number	09/816,083
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		Group Art Unit	3627
		Examiner Name	Florian M. Zeender
Sheet	3	of	3
		Attorney Docket Number	062834-0142

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Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.) date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ⁶
		Microsoft Computer Dictionary, 4 th Edition, Microsoft Press, 1999, pages 167, 242, 334, 421, 443, 444 and 462	

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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